

### Arizona Unclaimed Property Update

Division Administrator Customer Relationship Unit William Nagel

# **Unclaimed Property**

### **Updates**

- Unclaimed Property Reporting information
- > Improvements
- > How much did we return?



### What is Unclaimed Property?

Unclaimed Property is a financial asset owed to an individual or business. Property is considered unclaimed when there has been no owner contact for a specified period of time, usually between 1 and 3 years.

### **Examples:**

- Checks
- Safe deposit box
- > Financial securities
- Checking account





# Reporting Unclaimed Property

### When to Report

- Most entities report by November 1.
- Insurance companies report by May 1.

### **Contact Owners**

Perform Due Diligence mailing 120 days prior to report.

### Reporting

- Accept electronic reports via CD, DVD, or USB flash drive.
- The reports must be in NAUPA Standard Electronic File Format.
- ADOR accepts payment by check and wire transfer.
- Review Publication 651: Unclaimed Property Reporting Manual.



# Voluntary Disclosure

- The Voluntary Disclosure Program is an initiative to encourage companies that have not previously reported to begin complying with unclaimed property reporting requirements.
- The State will not assess penalties or interest on property reported through the Voluntary Disclosure Program.



# **Unclaimed Property**

# Improvements



# Spreading the Word







- Unclaimed Property Day
- Small Business Week
- Good Morning America









# Claim Form Improvement

### **Improvement Steps**

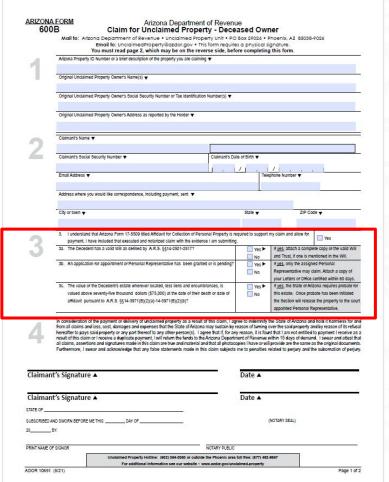
- Identified future state process flow
- Benchmarked other state forms
- Conducted "Voice Of the Customer" survey
  - Duplicative information
  - Wall of text
  - Hard to fill out





# <u>**Duplicative Information**</u>

**Claim for Deceased Owner** 





	Please print or type your answers to each question:				
1a.	Name of Decedent ▼			1b. Date of Death	
				THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	
1c.	Name of Decedent's Spouse ▼			1d. Spouse's Date of Death	1
		□ Not a	narried at time of death	(If now decreased)	
	Attach the decedent's death	1 15 15			
	Attach die detedent's dead	CETUIIC	ite to this armuavit.		
2	An answer for each question in Section 2 is required. Carefu	illy read th	e instructions for ques	tions answered, "Yes".	
2a.	Did the decedent have a valid will as defined by	□ No		lete copy of the valid will a	
	A.R.S. §§14-2501 to 2517?	☐ Yes	If one is mentioned in the will. Payment will be issued per the terms of the will/trust.		
2b.	is an application for appointment of personal representative pending,	□ No		ed personal representative m	ay
	or has a personal representative been appointed?	Yes	claim. Attach a copy of within 60 days.	f your Letters of Office cer	tified
2c.	Was the value of all personal property in the decedent's estate,	□ No		ona requires probate for this	estate
	wherever located, less liens and encumbrances, valued above	Yes	Attach the certified Decree of Distribution for a closed		
	\$75,000 at the date of death or date of affidavit, pursuant to A.R.S. §§14-3971(B)(2) to 14-3971(B)(2)(b)?	_	representative may cla	e has been initiated, the pe alm: see 2h	rsonai
	The second secon				
3b.	Revenue's Unclaimed Property Unit that I am entitled to becau  Your relationship to the decedent F  I hereby unconditionally and irrevocably assign, grant, and tran the Artzona Department of Revenue's Unclaimed Property Unit	se of my rel	ationship to the decedent of		
Eacl	Your relationship to the decedent ►  I hereby unconditionally and irrevocably assign, grant, and tran	se of my rei sfer all right in the name	ationship to the decedent of is, title, interest, and obliga e of the decedent to: t, choose option 3b, an	of: tion in all unclaimed property d name the heir they wis	held t
4	Your relationship to the decedent ►  I hereby unconditionally and irrevocably assign, grant, and tranthe Artzona Department of Revenue's Undaimed Properly Unit Name of heir you are assigning to ►  heir that wishes to assign their rights must fully complete the prights to. The heir accepting payment must file a claim and please print or type your answers to each question:	se of my rel sfer all right In the nam is affidavi	ationship to the decedent of is, title, interest, and obligate of the decedent to: t, choose option 3b, an supporting evidence in-	or. tion in all unclaimed properly d name the heir they wis cluding their own affidav	held b
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### **Wall of Text**

- > Full page 2 of text
- Tried to explain every scenario
- Caused confusion leading to increased customer contact



### Arizona Department of Revenue

### Claim for Unclaimed Property - Original Owner

This form should only be used to claim property of which you are the original owner.

If you are claiming property as the heir or beneficiary of a deceased owner (Form 600B), the agent of an entity (Form 600C) or the agent of a living owner (Form 600D), you must complete the appropriate form.

Section 1 of page 1

Regardless of how you answer this Section, we will do a complete search of our database to identify and work to return all unclaimed property belonging to the pertinent owner,

- In this section, we ask that you please provide the property ID or a brief description of the property you are claiming. It is not required to complete this section but we ask, if known, that you provide the property ID, if not known it is not required nor helpful to collect this number. If you do not know the property ID number, but are looking for a specific lost asset, it is helpful to give us a brief description, such as, "Southwest Cactus Wren Federal Credit Union Money Order Check #1008 321 6587" or "IRA funds from employer Jackson and Lynch Welding\*, Lastly, if you simply wish to collect all miscellaneous unclaimed property you may leave the section blank,
- · In the remaining questions in this section, you are required to provide the name of the individual you believe to be the owner, this may be your name, and if known, the address, and tax ID number reported by the business or entity that remitted the property to the State of Arizona. If unknown you may leave this Section blank,

It is very important that you complete this Section fully and accurately. You are required to provide us with your current or correct name and your current/correct contact information. If you provide an email address, we will provide you with a receipt of your claim with 15 to 20 business days of receipt; this information is no longer provided in hard copy. Providing an email address also expedites communication and helps us more efficiently serve you. The address that you record in this Section will be the address that payment will be sent to should your claim be approved.

You must sign and date the form, we require a physical signature. In this section, please read the declarations carefully, There is a notary section under the signature, you may choose to have the form notarized or provide a legible photocopy of valid government issued photo identification; such as a driver's license or passport. If there are joint owners, they must also sign the claim form (see evidence requirements below for all joint owner exceptions),

### YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING EVIDENCE WITH THIS FORM:

- √You must provide proof of your identity as the claimant. Please provide a clear copy of official photo identification or have your signature on the claim form notarized. If your name has changed since the property was reported to the State of Arizona, you must provide verification of your name change, such as, a court order, marriage license or divorce decree
- ✓ You must provide proof of ownership. The Arizona Unclaimed Property Section does not release funds based on name similarity alone, must provide a match to another reported factor, most commonly social security number or match to the reported (not current)
- · Provide proof that you lived at or received mail at the address reported to the State of Arizona as the last known address of the original owner. If you do not know what address was reported to the State of Arizona, you can complete an inquiry at www. missingmoney.com. Acceptable proof includes: the original financial instrument, a statement from the entity that originally held the asset, a canceled envelope addressed to you, a credit report, lease/mortgage, property/income tax documentation, school/military records, past government issued identification or utility bills/statements. Please see our website: azdor.gov/unclaimed-property for a full list of acceptable proof. If you cannot find acceptable proof or do not know the reported address you may provide proof of your social security number and we will attempt to connect you to the reported address.
- · Provide proof of your social security number. Providing your Social Security number (SSN) is optional. However, if you choose not to provide your SSN, there may be insufficient information available to determine whether you are the owner of the unclaimed property held by the Section and in some cases may result in your claim being denied. If you provide your SSN, the Section will only disclose it to employees involved in paying your claim and to the federal government as required by law.

### ✓ Joint owners must file together unless:

- · One of the owners is deceased. In this case, a copy of the joint owner's death certificate is required.
- . The owners are now divorced. In this case, a certified copy of the divorce decree and complete property settlement are required.
- . The owners have lost contact. In this case, a notarized statement that confirms that the owners had no marital relationship, and have lost all contact is required.

Please be aware that each claim is unique and that once your claim is received, the Section may need to request additional information and will allow you an opportunity to provide the additional evidence rather than denying your claim. If you have any questions or cannot provide the evidence requested we recommend that you complete the claim form and submit the evidence, you can provide, along with a note explaining your circumstances. A claims specialist may be able to clarify and assist you with the evidence

Mail to: Arizona Department of Revenue • Unclaimed Property Unit • PO Box 29026 • Phoenix, AZ 85038-9026

Email to: UnclaimedProperty@azdor.gov • This form requires a physical signature.

For additional information see our website • www.azdor.gov/unclaimed-property



# Claim Form Improvement

### **New Claim Form**

### **Final Improvement**

- Natural progression of claim process
- Reduced number of questions being asked to our customer
- Provides checklist to help customer provide needed information





### How Much Did We Return?



In the last year, the Department of Revenue and the State of Arizona:

- > 70% increase in claims processed.
- 45% increase in amount returned.
- Record \$88 million going back to Arizona citizens.



# Questions?

MissingMoney.com





### Arizona Department of Revenue

# Thank you!

